

My name is Larry Levine, and I live in the Mission Fields neighborhood, just on the other side of Highway 1 from here. I serve as the Chair of the Advisory Committee of Monterey County's County Service Area #50, developed by residents and businesses to oversee flood control efforts after the two devastating floods of this area in early 1995. CSA #50 includes about 400 homes in Mission Fields and two apartment complexes right across the street here; plus the Crossroads Shopping Village, Carmel Center business complex and various other business properties within the 100-year flood plain, including this property we are in now.

I am here to share with you how absolutely critical this project is to the residents, property owners and businesspeople of our area, CSA #50, and how much we encourage your agency to participate in the funding package that can make it possible.

A Monterey County Water Resource Agency study found the private property damages of the 1995 floods of our area were approx. \$60 million, not including public expense of technical and sheriff's staff time and the loss and then reconstruction of the Highway 1 bridge over the Carmel River. I understand this small area has suffered what is still the highest repetitive flood damage in the State of California.

We have been assessing ourselves for flood control ever since 1995. We made considerable progress during 1995 through late 1997, facilitated by an emergency order for work along the river, and supported by a grant from CalTrans. With limited actions, we protected our area from floods of about the 35-year level of the 1995 floods, and these improvements did save our area from similar floods in early 1998. But our goal has been to protect our homes and businesses from 100-year floods, and further progress has proved difficult and frustrating.

In 2001-2002, we contracted a hydrology study to recommend actions necessary to protect our area from 100-year floods, which indicated that the single most important step would be to widen and deepen the eastern most notch on the south side of the river, allowing more flood water to quickly flow into the floodway, instead of toward the north onto developed properties. This was also by far the least expensive of the recommendations, so inexpensive that CSA #50 already had enough reserves to complete the expense at the time, if that had been possible.

However, we were told that if a flood flowed into the flood way, Highway 1 would become a barrier, creating a bathtub effect, until the flood waters either overtopped or washed out Highway 1, or flowed back into the river east of the bridge, then threatening Mission Fields anew, defeating the whole purpose. Studies then showed that the largest possible culverts under Highway 1 would become blocked by debris during a significant flood, again defeating the whole purpose.

This is when the concept of a raising part of Highway 1 by creating a causeway was initiated, so that flood water could flow from east to west under the highway, and out to the bay. This coincided with other efforts related to environmental and recreational uses of the Odello East property, and CSA #50 was one of the various governmental and non-governmental groups involved in developing this project. Most of the planning and implementation funds have been committed, but we truly need your support to complete the funding package and allow the project to move forward.

While the project has varied goals, for those of us in CSA #50, we have always viewed the project as the single most important step in reducing the continuing flood threat to our homes and families, and to our businesses.

Thank you very much.

Lawrence V. Levine, Chair
CSA #50 Advisory Committee
P. O. Box 222182
Carmel, CA 93922

831-625-9414
farflung@redshift.com

August 27, 2013



Notice of Public Hearing

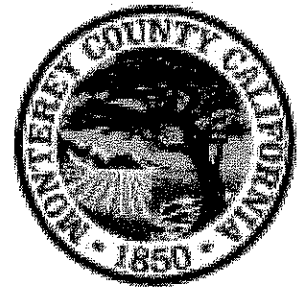
On

Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and

Environmental Enhancement Project Funding

From the California Department of Water Resources

Flood Corridor Grant Program



The State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Monterey County invite comments from the public on a request from Monterey County to DWR to provide grant funding for the proposed Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project on property located in the unincorporated area of Monterey County. The purpose of the project would be to construct a flood conveyance bypass/causeway and associated road improvements along State Route 1 to increase conductivity between the floodplain and the south arm of the Carmel River Lagoon and to implement restoration and enhancement improvements to portions of the Carmel River floodplain. The proposed project is located south of the City of Carmel-By-The-Sea, on the south side of the Carmel River, in unincorporated Monterey County.

A public hearing has been scheduled for **4:30 p.m. on August 27, 2013** at the Carmel Wastewater District Community Meeting Room, 3945 Rio Road, Carmel, California. All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and express their views. Public input is solicited on whether the project should be partially or fully funded and, if so, whether there are conditions that should be considered to include in the funding agreement. Persons unable to attend should mail or e-mail comments on or before 5:00 p.m. **August 23, 2013** to Kristin Ford, Department of Water Resources, 3464 El Camino Ave., Room 200, Sacramento, CA 95821, e-mail Kristin.Ford@water.ca.gov. Please include "Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project Comment" in the subject line of the e-mail. You may also contact John Ford, Project Manager, Monterey County Resource Management Agency, 168 W. Alisal Street, 2nd Floor, Salinas, CA 93901, email FordJH@co.monterey.ca.us for information about the project.

Information about the funding source, DWR's Flood Corridor Program, is available on the FCP Internet web site at <http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/fpo/sgb/fpcp/>.

*Please get the causeway
project under way now-
Prevention rather than
dealing with flood consequences
is a more sensible approach*

*We live in
MISSION FIELD
AGABRY WHALEY
Michael TROIAN*



Notice of Public Hearing

On

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I am in favor of the causeway.

Please build it soon. I live in

*Mission Fields - name Briouka M. Boehm
3420 Rio Rd.*

Ford, Kristin@DWR

From: Cyndy Rink <cfr077@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2013 1:48 PM
To: Ford, Kristin@DWR
Subject: "Carmel River Floodplain Restoration & Enviromental Enhancement Project Comment"

Dear Kristin--

So sorry I didn't get this in before 8/23-- However I do want to comment since I am unable to attend the meeting today-

I am very MUCH IN FAVOR of the project of the new bypass along route 1-@ to be fully funded.

I am a resident @ Arroyo Carmel Townhouses-- in Rio Rd--(#34)

Thank you very much.

Cyndy Rink
3850 Rio Rd #34
Carmel,CA 93923

Ford, Kristin@DWR

From: MM_Robbins <mm_robbins@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2013 9:05 AM
To: Ford, Kristin@DWR
Cc: carl holm
Subject: Causeway Meeting

Dear Kirstin,

Sorry I had to leave the meeting early I want to add the following to my comments at the meeting.

For the past 15 years, those of us living in the 100-year flood plain at the mouth of Carmel Valley and Mission Fields have faithfully paid into a flood control improvement fund. But no flood control improvements have been built. There are almost 400 homes, and well over 80 business that are in the flood plain and need protection. (50 businesses in the Crossroads alone.) We know the causeway will help reduce flood pressure on the north bank of the river. And as I said at the meeting we are shovel-ready-- ready to pick up a shovel and dig the causeway!

County Service Area #50's citizen committee voted earlier to spend \$300,000 on the new flood study that will show what improvements need to be made to remove us from the 100-year flood plain. With the help of the causeway, the cost of these improvements will be reduced substantially.

The causeway is a win-win project. We can save our homes and businesses and save money too. Please help us with the causeway.

thank you,

Margaret Robbins
3850 Rio Road #26
Carmel CA, 93923

August 30, 2013

Ford, Kristin@DWR

From: Jacqueline Zischke <jzischkelaw@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2013 4:06 PM
To: Ford, Kristin@DWR; FordJH@co.monterey.ca.us
Cc: jzischkelaw@charter.net
Subject: Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project Comment

Kristin and John,

Could you please add me to the service list for the above referenced project to receive notices of any public meetings or hearings, as well as to receive publicly circulated documents. My contact information is set forth below.

Thank you.

Jacqueline Zischke

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Jacqueline M. Zischke, Attorney at law
A Professional Corporation
PO Box 1115
Salinas, Ca 93902
Phone: 831-761-8714
Fax: 1-888-385-9198
jzischkelaw@charter.net

Ford, Kristin@DWR

From: LewiE G <kinglewie@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2013 5:46 PM
To: Ford, Kristin@DWR
Subject: Re: "Carmel River Floodplain Restoration & Enviromental Enhancement Project Comment"

Dear Kristin--
I didn't get this in before 8/23--
I do want to comment since I am unable to attend the meeting today-

I am very MUCH IN FAVOR of the project of the new bypass along route 1-@ to be fully funded.
I am a resident @ Arroyo Carmel Townhouses-- in Rio Rd--(#34)

Thank you very much.

M L Garing

On Tue, Aug 27, 2013 at 1:48 PM, Cyndy Rink <cfr077@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Kristin--
So sorry I didn't get this in before 8/23--
However I do want to comment since I am unable to attend the meeting today-

I am very MUCH IN FAVOR of the project of the new bypass along route 1-@ to be fully funded.
I am a resident @ Arroyo Carmel Townhouses-- in Rio Rd--(#34)

Thank you very much.

Cyndy Rink
3850 Rio Rd #34
Carmel, CA 93923

Ford, Kristin@DWR

From: Barbara Grace <barbgrace@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2013 1:14 PM
To: Ford, Kristin@DWR
Subject: Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project Comment

Kristin Ford
Dept. of Water Resources

Dear Kristin Ford,

My name is Barbara Grace, and I live at Arroyo Carmel. My address is 3850 Rio Rd, Apt 27, Carmel, CA 93923. I am in the flood plain and carry flood insurance and am very concerned about potential for flooding here. I support the Causeway project and want it to be built as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Barbara F. Grace
3850 Rio Rd, Apt 27
Carmel, CA 93923

831-620-1664

Ford, Kristin@DWR

From: Natalie Keeler <bacata@redshift.com>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2013 10:26 AM
To: Ford, Kristin@DWR
Subject: Carmel River Floodplain Restoration

My name is Natalie Keeler and I live at the Arroyo Carmel. Please get that causeway project going as soon as possible. I'm tired of paying huge flood insurance fees!



Carmel Area Wastewater District

P.O. Box 221428 Carmel California 93922 ❖ (831) 624-1248 ❖ FAX (831) 624-0811

Barbara Buikema
General Manager
James J. Pinkevich
Superintendent
Robert R. Wellington
Legal Council

Board of Directors
Gregory D'Ambrosio
Suzanne Paboojian
Robert Siegfried
Charlotte F. Townsend
Ken White

Kristin Ford
Department of Water Resources
3464 El Camino Ave. Room 200
Sacramento, CA 95821
Kristin.Ford@water.ca.gov

August 27, 2013

RE: Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project Comment

Kristin Ford,

On behalf of the Carmel Area Waste Water District (CAWD) I am providing this letter to the Department of Water Resources taking the opportunity to express the concerns of the District. CAWD has recently become aware of several projects proposed in the Carmel River watershed affecting the floodplain West of Highway 1 in Carmel CA. Historically the District has remained silent to projects in the vicinity of the wastewater treatment plant which have been proposed within the limits of the FEMA designated flood hazard area. As you may be aware the wastewater treatment plant serving the City of Carmel, Pebble Beach and surrounding areas is located adjacent to the Carmel River, West of Highway 1 and has been in this location prior to 1936. The district currently serves the occupants of more than 6000 residential and commercial units in its own service area and another 4500 units by contract in Del Monte Forest. The District is responsible to the constituents of the District to ensure the continuous operation and financial stability of the wastewater treatment facility, as well as maintain the health, safety and welfare of both employees and the public.

The District recognizes that there may be some significant improvements that can be made to enhance the natural performance of the floodplain adjacent to the treatment plant properties. CAWD staff has obtained a very limited amount of information at this time regarding the intent of the "Causeway" project and due to a relatively short involvement in this process staff requests the following information be shared with the District so that a more formal opinion of the project can be provided,

- 1) When available the District requests a copy of the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR)

per Chapter 44 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 65.8 be provided for review and comment. If the DWR has preliminary hydraulic modeling for the proposed changes the District requests a copy for review.

- 2) Due to the potential for modifications to the fluvial regime of the river during a significant flood event the District requests that no grading or improvements be proposed that increase the flood flow volumes or velocities in the direction of the treatment facility. Please provide the District with the hydrology models demonstrating the project will not have these detrimental impacts to the District facility. Any improvements incorporated into the project helping to relieve District properties of flood risk will be welcomed.
- 3) Please provide hydraulic models incorporating the collective effects of all known projects under consideration by the County of Monterey, including the County EPB project and the San Clemente Dam Removal. Timing of these projects is of great concern to the district as to prevent one project from making changes to the flood plain that may be exacerbated by another causing increased flood flows or higher base flood elevations.
- 4) Due to the critical nature of Treatment Plant operation for the surrounding community District employees must maintain access to the treatment plant at all times. Please consider district employee access in any construction scenarios.

In conclusion I would like to request that the District be included in all future discussions regarding flooding impacts or mitigations proposed by the Causeway project. Also I would like your assistance in assuring the constituents of the District that the final proposal will not bring an increased cost to the District. Finally I would also like to request resolution of the above concerns as quickly as possible so that the District can support the project.

Thank you



Barbara Buikema
General Manger



Carmel Area Wastewater District

P.O. Box 221428 Carmel California 93922 ♦ (831) 624-1248 ♦ FAX (831) 624-0811

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Robert Siegfried
Charlotte F. Townsend
Ken White

Kristin Ford
Department of Water Resources
3464 El Camino Ave. Room 200
Sacramento, CA 95821
Kristin.Ford@water.ca.gov

September 4, 2013

RE: Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project Comment

Kristin Ford,

Please include the concerns raised in this letter with those included in the earlier letter from the Carmel Area Wastewater District dated August 27, 2013. I would like to thank you and County staff for facilitating discussion at the public advisory meeting held on August 27, 2013 here at the District office. District staff and I have a better understanding of the project and changes in the riverine hydrology of the areas surrounding the wastewater treatment plant.

It is important for the District to understand the flood risk associated with the completion of the Causeway portion of the project without completion of the modification to the floodplain East of Highway 1. If the highway improvements are proposed to be completed prior to any grading or levee reductions East of Highway 1 the District would like to have some reassurances that there will not be an impact to the base flood elevations for the 10, 25, 50 and 100 year flood levels in the event the Causeway is completed first and funding never materializes to complete the full project. To satisfy this concern we must see a credible representation of this scenario modeled in Hec-Ras and must include:

- *Duplicate effective* FEMA flood model for the stretch of river to be impacted.
- The *Corrective effective* model which includes the geographic changes in the floodplain, the changes in vegetation and any development not represented in the effective model.
- The *Proposed conditions* model which demonstrates the no increase in flood risk to the District properties.
- Correlation of this project with the other foreseeable projects proposed upstream and downstream of the project.

I will reiterate my closing from the prior District letter asking for your assistance in assuring the

constituents of the District that the final proposal will not bring an increased cost to the District as all financial burdens must be supported by residents of the community.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Buikema". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the last name being a large, stylized 'B'.

Barbara Buikema
General Manger